The South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
announces an
Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month 2019
4th Grade Student Essay Contest
"This Place Matters"

Celebrated in May, South Dakota Archaeology & Historic Preservation Month was created to acquaint the public with the disciplines of archaeology and historic preservation and to strengthen the enduring bond between the past and the present.

The competition proposes to enable students to achieve a better appreciation of their historic resources, the stories they tell, and why they should be preserved for future generations.

With the theme of "This Place Matters," students are asked to write an essay about any South Dakota location that is at least 50 years old, why it is a favorite place for them, and why it should be preserved. It does not need to be a historic site and writing a history of the location is not necessary.

Entries will be judged on quality of writing, content and theme, and originality of thought. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation.

The 1st place winner will receive a $200 cash prize and a one-year family membership to the South Dakota State Historical Society (a $50 value). The 2nd place winner will receive a $100 cash prize and a one-year family membership to the South Dakota State Historical Society. The 3rd place winner will receive a $50 cash prize and a one-year family membership to the South Dakota State Historical Society.

The entry must be postmarked no later than Friday, April 26, 2019. Winners will be notified by May 6, 2019. If schedules allow, there will be a classroom presentations for the winners.

For more details, including complete guidelines and an entry form, please visit our website at history.sd.gov/preservation or contact Cindy Snow at 605-773-2907 or cindy.snow@state.sd.us.